

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the final office action mailed May 15, 2008. In the office action the Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 5-7, 57, 63 and 67-79 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ludwig et. al. (WO 95/10158) in view of Cezanne et al. (U.S. 5,473,701), Andrea et. al. (US 5,251,263), and Slattery (US 5,848,146A).

In this Response, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-79 without prejudice, and added new claims 80-99. Support for the new claims can be found in Figures 16-25 and corresponding discussion in the specification as filed. No new matter has been added.

With respect to all amendments, Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter. Moreover, Applicants have not acquiesced to any characterizations of the invention, nor any rejections or objections of the claims, made by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 80-99 are patentable over the three cited references, either taken alone or in combination.

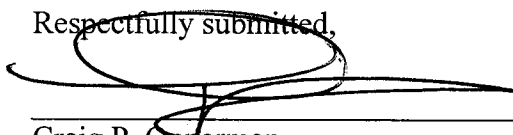
By responding in the foregoing remarks only to particular positions asserted by the examiner, the Applicants do not necessarily acquiesce in other positions that have not been explicitly addressed. In addition, the Applicants' arguments for the patentability of a claim should not be understood as implying that no other reasons for the patentability of that claim exist.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this application with a view towards allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (650) 843-4000, if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Sept 15, 08



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